AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An automatic sampler associable with at least one plurality of containers of samples to be subjected to chromatographic analysis, ~~the~~ automatic samples being interfaced with at least two independent data systems for data acquisition and processing, and for the control/management of said automatic sampler, wherein said data systems serve each of at least two chromatographic analysis systems selected from at least one of gas chromatographic systems and liquid chromatographic systems.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) An automatic sampler according to claim 1, wherein two or more distinct interfaces are provided for interfacing with said <u>at least</u> two ~~or more~~ independent data systems.

4. (Previously Presented) An automatic sampler according to claim 3, wherein said interfaces are of the RS-232, Ethernet TCP/IP LAN, IR, or Wireless type.

5. (Previously Presented) An automatic sampler according to claim 1, wherein said data systems include one or more computers.

6. (Previously Presented) An automatic sampler according to claim 1, wherein two or more interfaces are provided for interfacing with each of said chromatographic analysis systems for chromatographic analysis.

7. (Previously Presented) An automatic sampler according to claim 6, wherein said two or more interfaces allow the transmission of interfacing logic signals between said at least two chromatographic analysis systems and said sampler, so as to enable their synchronization.

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8. (Currently Amended) A method for the acquisition and/or processing of data regarding the chromatographic analysis of samples via the control of an automatic sampler according to claim 1, including the steps of:

~~definition of~~ defining a first sampling sequence on a first of said at least two ~~or more~~ independent data systems;

~~definition of~~ defining a second sampling sequence on a second of said at least two ~~or more~~ independent data systems;

~~definition of~~ defining an nth sampling sequence on an nth of said at least two ~~or more~~ independent data systems; and

~~activation of~~ activating said automatic sampler by said first data system, according to said first sampling sequence, for feeding said samples to a first chromatographic analysis system, or, in a separate manner, by said second data system, according to said second sampling sequence, for feeding said samples to a second chromatographic analysis system, or by said nth data system, according to said nth sampling sequence, for feeding said samples to an nth chromatographic analysis system, wherein said first through nth chromatographic analysis systems are selected from gas chromatographic systems and liquid chromatographic systems.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, further comprising:

~~acquisition~~ acquiring and/or processing of data regarding the chromatographic analysis of said samples, said data being obtained with said first, with said second or with said nth sampling sequence from said first, said second or said nth chromatographic analysis system.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, further comprising:

reading ~~of the~~ a code associated with the containers of said samples, via a code reader of said automatic sampler.

11. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein for each of said samples analyzed by one of said systems for chromatographic analysis, the data regarding the chromatographic analysis and/or the operational data regarding said automatic sampler and said systems for chromatographic analysis and/or the sampling sequence set up for said analysis, are acquired.